(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The issues raised in the complaints were looked into and it was found that the charges levelled could not be substantiated.

Purchase of Westland helicopters for ONGC

2452. PROF. C. LAKSHMANNA:
SHRIMATI USHA MALHOTRA:
DR. LOKESH CHANDRA:

Will the Minister of TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have decided to purchase Westland WG-30 helicopters for the use of O.N.G.C. and OIL;

(b) if so, how many helicopters are proposed to be purchased;

(c) whether the offshore platforms in Bombay High where these helicopters are to be used need strengthening to accommodate the heavy weight of these helicopters;

(d) whether the purchase of the helicopters will be economical or hiring them will be economical; and

(e) whether it is a fact that most of the national and private oil companies in the world hire helicopters for off-shore operations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Government have decided to purchase 21 Westland helicopters to cater to the requirements of the Petroleum Sector and for scheduled/non-scheduled services be provided by the Helicopter Corporation of India.

(c) Westland Helicopters to be acquired by the Helicopter Corporation of India are capable of landing/taking off from all types of helipads in off-shore installations with requisite complement of crew and carriage of necessary equipmen

(d) The purchase of helicopters will be economical since out of the total package cost of £ 70 millions, the U.K. Government is providing aid amounting to £ 65 million. The Helicopter Corporation of India is expected to offer services at internationally competitive rates.

(e)Many oil companies do meet their requirements of off-shore operations by charter-hire of helicopters.

Introduction of selection grade in the National Gallery of Modern Art

2453. SHRI S. W. DHABE:
SHRI F. M. KHAN:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the National Gallery of Modern Art, New Delhi has not implemented the guidelines regarding introduction of 20 percent selection grade posts for Group 'D' staff;

(d) if so, the names of Group 'D' employees who have not given any promotion even after completing 25 years of service; and

(c) what steps Government propose to take to ensure for introduction of selection grade posts therein?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

Second Hooghly Bridge

@2453-A. SHRI NEPALDEV BHATTACHARJEE: Will the Minister of TRANSPORT be pleased to state.

(a) whether the Chief Minister of West Bengal has written to him on the works of the Second Hooghly Bridge recenly;

(b) if so what are the details thereof; and

(c) what is the Government's response thereto?

@ Previously Unstarred Question 2196 transferred from the 18th March 1986.